

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in the present application.

As noted above, Species A corresponding to Fig. 1 has been elected for examination in the present application. Currently, claims 7-11 may be interpreted as corresponding to Species A.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a divisional application including non-elected claims 1-6 and 12-37.

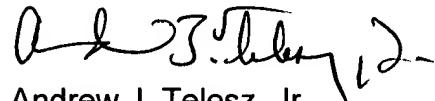
Favorable consideration and early allowance of the present application are earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (703) 715-0870 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS, P.L.L.C.



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AJT:cej

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